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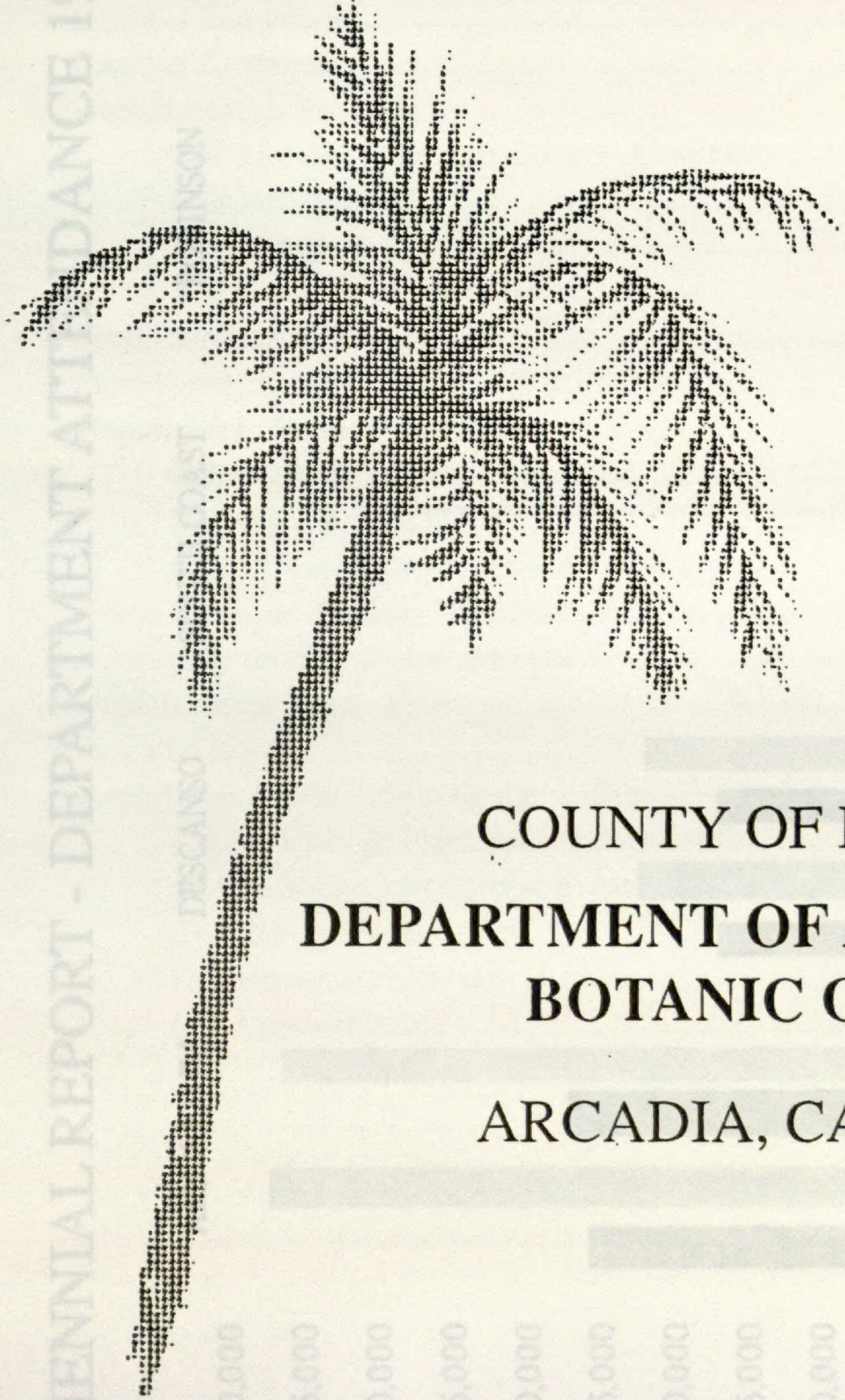
BIENNIAL REPORT

JULY 1, 1988 TO JUNE 30, 1990



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF ARBORETA AND BOTANIC GARDENS

ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA

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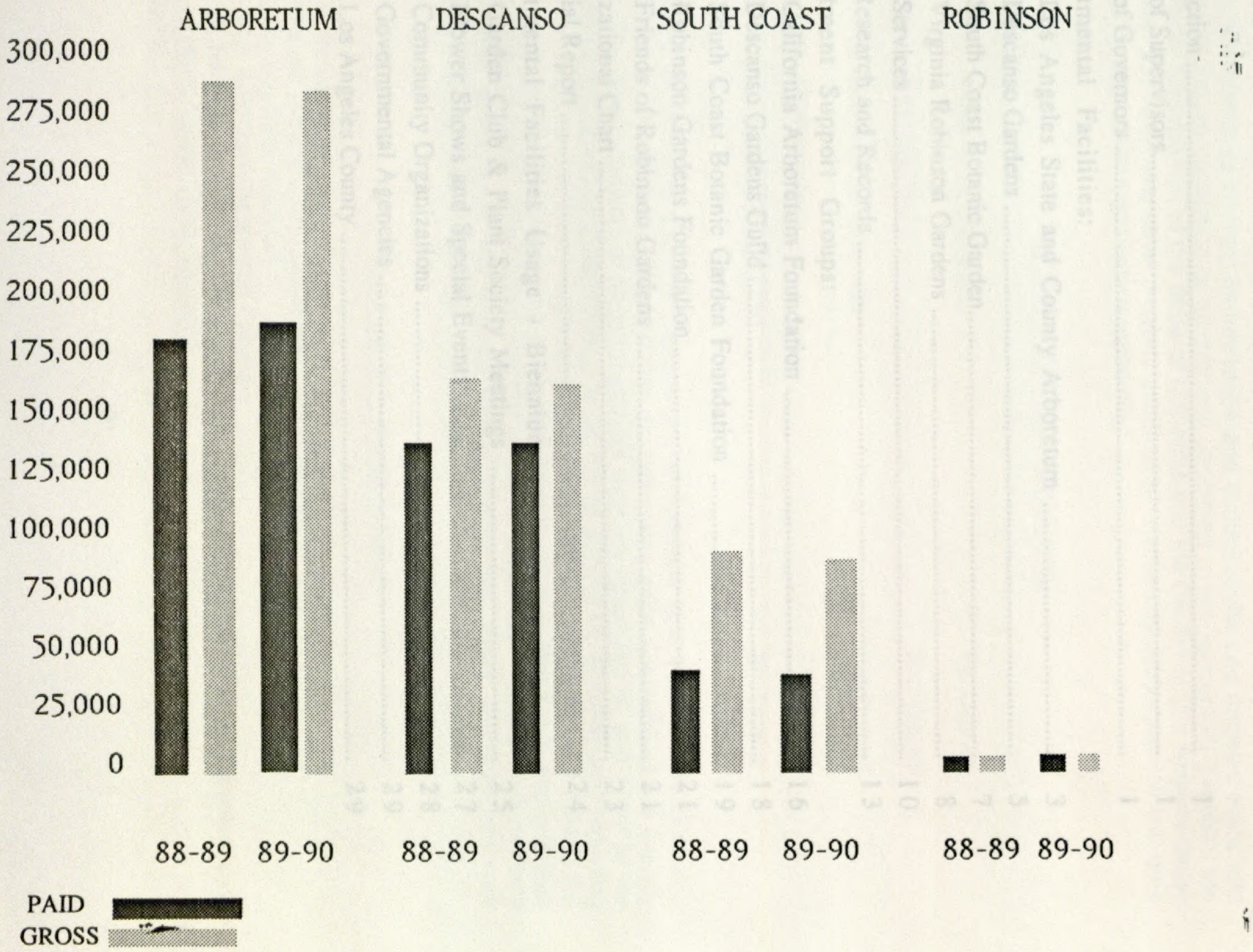
BIENNIAL REPORT - DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE 1988 - 1990



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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Arboretum and Botanic Gardens was created in 1953 by the Board of Supervisors. Chapter 2.42 of the County Code, amended in 1974, states that "The functions of the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens shall consist of and include administrative charge, maintenance and control of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum consisting of all property described in the agreement between the State Parks Commission of the State of California and the County of Los Angeles dated December 23, 1947, and other property acquired by the County subsequent to that date for Arboretum and Botanic Garden purposes."

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Peter F. Schabarum	1st District
Kenneth Hahn	2nd District
Edmund D. Edelman	3rd District
Deane Dana	4th District
Michael D. Antonovich	5th District

The Board of Governors of the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens was established by the Board of Supervisors, pursuant to section 2.42.050 of the County Code. The Board consists of fifteen members who are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. Their duties consist of: advising and providing support to the Board of Supervisors and the Director in the general management of the Department; establish fund raising goals and objectives; establish goals and priorities for allocation of funds; solicit funds and donations for Department programs; coordinate fund raising activities of the support organizations; and study and evaluate new programs and methods of funding.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mavis F. Bowes (Mrs. Jerry J.)
Sadie Brewer (Mrs. David) (Deceased August, 1988)
Ruth J. Darling (Mrs. Andrew)
David Alan Goldberg (Appointed February, 1990)
James E. Halferty
Julianne Heinsheimer (Mrs. Thomas)
Kay Iizuka

Myrna Isaac (Mrs. Meyer) (Appointed June, 1989)
Ruth Mary Larson (Mrs. Leland)
Dr. Thuy Van Le
Angelo L. Pappas (Resigned May, 1989)
F. Harold Roach
Barbara Simmons (Mrs. David)
Florence Siudmak (Mrs. Edward)
Marilyn C. Stoke (Mrs. H. Randall)

President, California Arboretum Foundation

Alice Frost Thomas (Mrs. Dudley W.)

President, Descanso Gardens Guild

Mary Ann Arnett (Mrs. James C.)

President, South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

James J. White (1988-89)
Jane Au (Mrs. Roland) (1989-90)

President, Robinson Garden Foundation

Elizabeth Sides (Mrs. Robert)

President, Friends of Robinson Gardens

Barbara Reilly (Mrs. Charles) (1988-89)
Bridget Martens (Mrs. John), and
Donna Wolff (Mrs. Martin J.) (1989-90)

ADMINISTRATION

On March 31, 1990, Francis Ching retired as Director, Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, culminating a thirty-four year County career. He began his career with the Department in 1956 and held positions of Plant Research Assistant, Chief Horticulturist and Arboretum Superintendent prior to his appointment as Director in 1970. Assistant Director Leon Arnold was appointed Acting Director pending the search for, and appointment of, a permanent replacement.

During the biennium the Department awarded grounds maintenance service contracts for the Arboretum, Decanso Gardens and South Coast Botanic Garden, as well as a tree trimming contract for tree maintenance at both the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens. Such contracting efforts have saved the Department just over fifty percent of prior costs of permanent County employees with no loss of quality or performance.

DEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES

LOS ANGELES STATE AND COUNTY ARBORETUM

Public Visitation

	Paid	Total Usage *
1988-89	176,184	293,519
1989-90	181,213	291,181

* Includes all paid admissions plus educational classes, meetings, membership and free days.

I. GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Henry C. Soto Water Conservation Garden

Initial ground breaking for the Henry C. Soto Water Conservation Garden occurred in October of 1986. The project was completed in the spring of 1989.

This garden contains a colorful mix of perennials, trees and shrubs that are found in California gardens. A surprising number of garden favorites thrive with much less water than gardeners usually give them. The garden also displays state-of-the-art irrigation equipment including drip emitters and timers, which allow water to penetrate to a depth of eighteen inches to reduce waterings to twice monthly or less. The Arboretum worked closely with the Metropolitan Water District on this educational water conservation project which was funded by private donations and completed at no cost to the County.

Completing the Entryway Vista, the Bog Garden and Weep Wall just west of the Bauer Pool provides a rough textured surface with crevices that harbor roots of water loving plants. Minimum moisture is provided by irrigation tubes built into the tufa rock wall which is covered by dwarf mondo grass, moneyworts, lily turf and other plants that grow well in poorly drained soils. Ground breaking occurred in February 1988, with final completion in the spring of 1990. The project, designed by Fred Lang, cost over $90,000 and was fully funded by private donations.

Blanche Hinman Garland Orchid Greenhouse

This new greenhouse provides an additional 4,500 square feet of space to house the Department's orchid collection. A new feature in the structure is a clearspan metal frame that totally eliminates side aisles, thus providing 65% more usable growing space. A motorized screen can be extended to allow 64% shade on bright sunny days and retracted to provide maximum lighting on gloomy days.

The greenhouse was completed in February 1989 at a cost of approximately $150,000, which was fully funded by private donations and a grant from the California Arboretum Foundation.

Air Pollution Greenhouse

The Air Pollution Greenhouse was funded by a grant from the California State Air Resources Board. From April through October visitors can walk through the divided greenhouse and compare the growth of plants in a smog free environment compared with regular air. On one side the air is filtered while the other contains the same, often unhealthful, air that visitors breathe outdoors. The greenhouse contains both educational and research displays that clearly show the effect of smog damage on various plants.

Peacock Cafe

In May 1990, construction work began on renovation of the Arboretum's food service facility, officially renamed the Peacock Cafe. Incorporating interior renovations to the kitchen and public areas as well as the new and expanded Helen Chandler Garland terraces, the facility will provide a greatly enlarged and more enjoyable dining environment for Arboretum visitors. Funded by $275,000 from the California Arboretum Foundation and a $125,000 matching grant from the County, the facility is expected to reopen in the late fall of 1990.

II. ACTIVITIES

Baldwin Bonanza

The Baldwin Bonanza is an annual plant sale, held during the first weekend in May 1988 and 1989. It netted $26,338 and $29,392 respectively and is one of the Department's major fund raising events.

Los Angeles Garden Show

The 1988 Garden Show theme was "Gardens for All Seasons". Over 42,000 visitors viewed a series of model gardens showcasing a variety of plant materials, with particular emphasis on Mediterranean plants. Over 37 exhibitors participated. The winner of the Sweepstakes award for large outside gardens was Tom Moran's Landscaping of Cypress.

The 1989 Garden Show theme was "At Home In The Garden", and was visited by over 27,000 persons. Attendance was greatly reduced by two days of rain that occurred on the first weekend and dampened visitor participation. Good Earth Enterprises won both the Sweepstakes and Theme Awards.

Environmental Education Fair

Each year the Department co-sponsored and coordinated an Environmental Education Fair, directed at school children and teachers. This event annually attracted about 5,000 students as well as about sixty-five exhibitors who displayed a wide variety of environmental information.

Other activities during the biennium included fifty-one flower shows and special events. Shows or events that drew over 6,000 visitors included: Bonsai show - 28,180; Cactus and Succulent Show - 15,579; Insect Fair - 11,726; Fern Show - 9,421; Rose Show - 7,928; Azalea Show - 6,869; and the Baldwin Bonanza - 6,210.

DESCANSO GARDENS

Public Visitation

	Paid	Total Usage *
1988-89	142,806	169,208
1989-90	142,015	163,922

* Includes all paid admissions plus educational classes, meetings, membership and free days.

I. GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Irrigation Project

An automatic drip irrigation system was installed in the 4.5 acre rose garden. This has not only proven to conserve water but has also significantly reduced labor costs.

The irrigation project also included installation of an automated system for the seven acre native plant section. Low pressure, low volume sprinklers were installed and provided water conservation as well as more efficient water distribution. Funding for the irrigation project consisted of $60,000 from a State of California Community Parklands grant and $15,000 from the Descanso Gardens Guild.

Hospitality House Rewiring

In 1988, the Hospitality House was rewired to reduce fire hazards and ensure that current and future electrical demands could be met. Matching funds of $16,000 each came from the County and the Descanso Gardens Guild.

Van de Kamp Hall Recarpeting

Through a matching grant of $6,800 from both the County and the Descanso Gardens Guild, original carpeting in Van de Kamp Hall was replaced. In addition, Crowley classroom was recarpeted and new linoleum flooring was installed in classroom A.

Descanso Lake Project

In 1989, the Descanso Gardens Lake Project was started. This project will ultimately combine two small existing ponds into a 1.5 acre lake surrounded with extensive planting to provide a protected nesting area for both domestic and migratory waterfowl, as well as areas for excellent viewing and educational exhibits. The first phase of construction was funded by the Descanso Gardens Guild with a $70,000 matching grant from the County. Subsequent phases will be funded by the Guild, with completion projected for late 1990 - early 1991.

II. ACTIVITIES

During the biennium, thirty-four special events or flower shows were held. Those shows or events that drew over 4,000 visitors included the Christmas Show - 8,819; Daffodil Show - 4,123; Spring Flower Show - 16,392; the Bonsai Show -4,839; Pasadena Garden Club Show - 5,191; Flower Arranger Show - 4,186; San Fernando Rose Show - 4,539.

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

Public Visitation

	Paid	Total Usage *
1988-89	38,771	87,118
1989-90	37,691	84,687

* Includes all paid admissions plus educational classes, meetings, memberships and free days attendance

I. GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Entrance

The entrance driveway was improved through a matching grant of $50,000 from the County and $50,000 from the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation. The complete project provided a new irrigation system, new entrance gate, lights and a revised entrance roadway.

Roadways

Through the use of existing personnel and help from the County Sanitation District, over 300 feet of the internal roadway was restored and the grade reduced in various locations by adding over 3,000 cubic feet of soil and decomposed granite.

Irrigation

Renovation of the existing irrigation system was necessitated by the continual subsidence of soil at this former landfill. The irrigation project consisted of installing 600 feet of six-inch main water line from the edge of the parking lot to the meadow lawn. Also, approximately 1,000 feet of four-inch water line was replaced on the north side of the gardens and in the meadow area on the low west side of the lake road. Since electrical power lines had continually broken due to subsidence, garden personnel installed a solar irrigation controller and new sprinkler lines and sprinkler heads facing Crenshaw Boulevard. Finally, a new 1.25 inch sprinkler system with ten stations and 3,000 feet of pipe was installed in the northern section of the grounds, which now provides a more reliable water delivery system.

II. ACTIVITIES

During the biennium twenty-five special events or flower shows were held. Those shows or events that drew over 3,500 visitors included Country and Cottage Crafts - 5,483; Fiesta de Flores Plant Sale - 5,748; Orchid Show - 3,637; and a Model Train Show - 4,030.

VIRGINIA ROBINSON GARDENS

Public Visitation

	Paid	Total Usage *
1988-89	2,020	2,738
1989-90	2,375	2,912

* Includes all paid admissions plus educational classes, meetings, membership and free day attendance.

I. GROUNDS IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to the grounds during the biennium included refurbishing the perennial beds, replacing oleander trees in the mall area, pruning and replanting in the west garden, restoring the herb garden, rebuilding the greenhouse and installing a concrete retaining wall to improve the grade around the greenhouse. Ninety-five percent of the main mall restoration was completed by the summer of 1990.

In 1988-89, the first phase restoration of the main residence was completed. Involved was the restoration and reconstruction of the roof level balustrade and front balcony balustrades, including replacement of missing sections to meet historically accurate specifications. The total project cost of $174,280 was jointly funded by a State of California Community Parklands grant ($59,280), a donation from the Friends of Robinson Gardens ($65,000), and a matching grant from the County ($50,000).

In 1989-90, the second phase restoration of the residence was completed. This included cleaning, patching, refurbishment and painting of all exterior walls of the main residence and the freestanding plastered concrete wall bordering Elden Way.

All exterior trim, doors, thresholds, windows, casings and jambs were stripped of old paint and then stabilized, redoweled, glued and refitted. All areas were refinished and repainted in strict accordance with historical specifications. Phase two costs of $175,348 were met by a $93,848 donation from the Friends of Robinson Gardens and a $80,500 matching grant from the County.

In 1990, the Friends of Robinson Gardens, at a cost of $14,500, had all the oriental rugs in the main residence cleaned, mothproofed and rebound.

In 1990, the main residence was sealed and fumigated to rid it of termites and wood-boring beetles prior to the return of the restored carpets and the start of a furniture and decorative arts restoration program. The Friends of Robinson Gardens donated the $6,500 cost of this project.

II. ACTIVITIES

Several major fund raising events were held at the Gardens during the biennium. In the summer of 1988 the facility was rented to Estee Lauder for a major evening event, and the Friends of Robinson Gardens sponsored the August Moon Ball - their major fund raising event. In 1989, the Friends sponsored its first Garden Tour and Patrons' Party, which was repeated in 1990. It has become a very successful fund-raiser and is planned as an annual event.

The Gardens were used extensively for commercial still photography during this period, and have been featured in numerous major publications as well as in the national advertising media.

In 1988, a horticultural internship program sponsored by the Robinson Gardens Foundation, was initiated at the Gardens. Each summer two horticultural students receive ten weeks of training at the gardens. They are involved in a variety of projects, which include mapping, planting, pruning, fertilizing and display design.

Master Plan

Approximately 60% of the Garden Restoration Plan was completed by June 30, 1990. Restoration plans were discussed each month by the Robinson Gardens Site Restoration Committee. This committee is comprised of members from the Friends of Robinson Gardens, the Robinson Gardens Foundation and Department staff, and was established to coordinate all restoration efforts at the Gardens.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Education:

Adult

Forty-seven adult education classes were held at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum between July 1, 1988, and June 30, 1990, with a total participation of 6,436 students. The classes included such subjects as: Basic Flower photography, Flower Arranging, Floral Table Setting, Garden Herbs and Their Uses, Garden Plant Identification, Home Landscape Design, Ikebana - Japanese Flower Arranging, Landscape Design for the Homeowners, Poisonous Plants Around the Home, and Pruning Basics.

During the biennium Descanso Gardens provided twenty-seven classes and lectures on a variety of subjects from rose and camellia pruning to a naturalist's garden. Some classes were one session only, while others were several sessions in length. Attendance varied from ten to one hundred fifty.

At South Coast Botanic Garden twenty-three adult classes were held, covering subjects ranging from Ikebana and container gardening to floral design and advanced gardening. Total class participation for the biennium was 17,011.

During the biennium, the Department provided 53 senior citizens special tours and 367 guided school field trips. Over one thousand Arbor Day trees were distributed to various schools within Los Angeles County. Participation in these events is shown below by Supervisorial District.

Supervisorial-Sr. Citizen-Guided School-Arbor Day Tree

District	Tram Tour	Field Trips	Distribution
First	10	77	305
Second	4	131	192
Third	7	72	182

Fourth	9	20	186
Fifth	2	56	210
Outside County	23	11	-0-
Total	53	367	1,075

Arbor Day tree distribution:

March 1989 - *Radermachera sinica* (glory astabell tree)
March 1990 - *Tabebuia impetiginosa* (pink trumpet tree)

Historical Section

The Historical Section is comprised of four California landmark buildings: the Queen Anne Cottage (1885) and matching Coach Barn, on the National Register of Historic Places; the Hugo Reid Adobe, a State Historical Landmark (#368) and the Santa Anita Depot (1890), which was moved to the Arboretum grounds in 1968 and is listed as a State Point of Historic Interest. The Queen Ann Cottage is also designated as a State Historical Landmark (#367). All four buildings are maintained as house museums and are furnished in appropriate period style. In the current biennium twenty-one donors have contributed forty-one separate items to the Historical Section. Of particular note are archival quality photographs, slides and period postcards; several pieces of period clothing plus accessories; and an ivory-headed quirt and cane. In addition, the Don Benito Chapter of Questors financed the reupholstery of three chairs in the Queen Anne Cottage and the repair of two turn-of-the-century dolls. Library carpeting in the Queen Anne Cottage was replaced with an 1878 peacock feather patterned carpet manufactured by J. R. Burrows & Co., funded through proceeds from the Christmas Open House. In the summer of 1988, new fire detection and burglar alarm systems were installed in each of the four buildings. Additionally, sprinkler systems were installed in the Queen Anne Cottage and the Coach Barn. In June 1990, the Coach Barn exterior was sanded, primed and painted, and the interior woodwork was cleaned and oiled.

During the biennium the History Curator maintained accession records for all donated items and continued inventorying the collections. Archival records include a photography collection of 5,000 items which is in the process of being catalogued, a slide collection of 4,000 items which is used for both reference and public education, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings, and reference files that document both local and Departmental history.

The History Curator supervised 50-60 volunteers who helped clean, preserve, and open the historical buildings to the public. A Christmas Open House was held both years as a fund-raiser for preservation projects. Training was provided for 30-40 volunteers who conducted both adult and school walking tours. The Curator also supervised a 10 member volunteer Speakers Bureau which offered narrated slide programs to civic organizations requesting such service.

Plant Research Library

During the biennium the Department's reference library was used by 1,571 members of the general public, 152 students, 1,699 professionals and staff and 1,195 telephone callers. In the same period, 293 books, 7 journals, and 32 journal articles were cataloged as new material. Some older material was recatalogued.

Activities of the librarian that focused public attention on the Department and its activities included participation in the annual meetings of the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, at the Missouri Botanical Garden featuring library acquisitions in May 1989 and at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix in March 1990. She was also a guest lecturer at the UCLA Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Outside activities that served the same purpose were acting as Community Relations Director of the Southern California Chapter of Special Libraries Association, Board of Directors and Membership Secretary of the Southern California Horticultural Institute, Board of Directors and Recording Secretary of the Pacific Horticultural Foundation. In October 1989 she went on a tour of botanical and horticultural libraries of England and Scotland arranged through the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries.

In January 1989, 817 linear feet of new shelving were added, increasing the library's capacity by over 25 percent.

Public Relations

The Public Relations Office is responsible for informing the Department's various audiences about the events, accomplishments, resources, programs, and features that make the gardens attractive to the community as both an educational and recreational resource.

During the 1988-90 biennium, information was sent on an ongoing basis to about two-hundred news outlets; including sixty newspaper editors or reporters, thirty-two magazine editors, seven television producers, twenty-seven travel promoters, eight free-lance writers and seventeen local chambers of commerce. The Publications Specialist was a guest each month on a KPCC talk show and arranged guest appearances by staff members on nine television and radio segments. This office coordinated twenty-five public relations video filming sessions during this period. The Publications Specialist is also responsible for publication of the Department's quarterly newsletter which debuted in June 1989. This is distributed nationally as well as to community and industry leaders and opinion makers in the local area.

PLANT RESEARCH AND RECORDS

Plant Information

The Botanical Information Consultant is responsible for overseeing a group of volunteers who answer telephone questions regarding botanical and horticultural information from the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the biennium the Consultant held three botanical seminars to train and update volunteers engaged in this activity. The total number of plant information inquiries answered in 1988-89 was 4,619 and in 1989-90, 4,402. The Consultant directly responded to other public inquiries on topics including plant diseases, garden pests, fertilizers and chemical usage, landscaping material, and plant identification.

The following public agencies were served and botanical questions were answered in detail:

L.A. County Sheriff's Training Academy
Cities of Bradbury and Monrovia
Pasadena Library
L.A. County Public Works, Flood Control District
J. Paul Getty Museum
Los Angeles Beautiful

Herbarium

The Herbarium contains a collection of dried ornamental plant specimens found in Southern California. These specimens are used as a reference for plant identification. The Herbarium Curator performed approximately 700 identifications a year for staff members, schools, universities and government agencies. Approximately 500 specimens were added to the collection each year, and there are now approximately 21,000 specimens in the herbarium collection. Over 300 duplicate specimens were culled out of the main collection and offered on exchange to provide space for new specimens. Volunteers contributed over 2,800 hours of assistance in this section during the biennium.

The Herbarium Curator, with the assistance of an additional 2,200 hours of volunteer time also coordinated the inventory of the living plant collection. Fifty-three 200' x 200' sections were surveyed, plant lists were updated, both for the computer and file cards, and plant labels were replaced. Other activities included training summer interns in herbarium practices and teaching botany classes for field leaders.

Research Activities

Plants Introduced during the Biennium

During the biennium the Department introduced the following new ornamentals to Southern California horticulture:

1988-1989

Myoporum cv. South Coast

1989-1990

Bauhinia variegata cv. Royalty
Reevesia thyrsoidea

Plants Being Evaluated

During the biennium the following plants were undergoing evaluation for future introduction into the Southern California landscape:

Rosmarinus officinalis cultivars
Callistemon cultivars
Eriocephalus africanus
Hypericum species
Maireana sedifolia

Weather

The Plant Records Unit serves as an official site for the United States Cooperative Weather Bureau, recording data for the benefit of the Fruit Frost Warning Service of San Gabriel Valley and for Arboretum horticulturists.

Data for the weather seasons, Oct. 1 to Sept. 30:

	1988-89	1989-90
Lowest temperature:	Feb. 6, 1989 27 degrees	Feb. 16, 1990 32 degrees
Highest temperature:	July 4, 1989 107 degrees	June 27, 1990 111 degrees
Total days of rainfall:	37 days	32 days

	1988	1990
Heaviest monthly rainfall:	Dec. 4.11 in.	Feb. 4.04 in.
Yearly rainfall:	10.77	11.56

Curatorial Staff Projects

A Curator, Ornamental Horticulture, joined the staff on June 26, 1989, filling the endowed Samuel Ayres, Jr., Chair of Ornamental Horticulture. During the biennium his responsibilities included locating and contacting sources for potential introduction materials and developing a formal evaluation procedure for existing holdings. He also contributed significantly to the collections planning process and assisted in the continuing development of an automated plant records system.

A Biologist was added to the staff on November 16, 1989. Among his duties, he assisted with plant identifications, participated in evaluating introduction material, helped with field inventory, and contributed to the maintenance of plant records.

New Accessions

During 1988-89 there were 733 new accessions to the plant collection. Among the following highlights of this period were:

147 accessions of water conserving plants for the Water Conservation Garden
19 accessions of *Plumeria* or frangipani
62 water-loving plants for the Bog Garden and Weep Wall.
50 orchid accessions
19 New Zealand plants for introduction testing
46 accessions of *Hypericum* for testing

In 1989-90 there were 506 new accessions. Highlights of this period were:

36 accessions of *Chamaedorea* palms
57 new orchid accessions introductions
48 accessions of native California plants for the Water Conservation Garden

Collections that were emphasized during the biennium included both water conserving and high-water use plants, as well as orchids, *Pittosporum, Callistemon,* and *Hypericum.*

Plant Inventory Update and Computer Uses

For most of the biennium, the computerized plant records were maintained on an Alpha-Micro computer set up for four pre-determined report formats. However, in July 1989, the plant records were converted in order to install them into a more advanced computer with a very flexible program. This popular software, dBASE, allows for tremendous flexibility in entering various types of information and in designing customized reports as needed by the Department. At that time, the records were redesigned around a new set of international standards to allow for communication among all botanical gardens. The new system made it possible to begin planning to link various departmental offices on a network and to integrate office functions for greater efficiency.

DEPARTMENT SUPPORT GROUPS

California Arboretum Foundation

Introduction

The California Arboretum Foundation was duly incorporated in 1948 as a non-profit foundation to sub-lease the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum from the County and to administer the fledgling garden. The Foundation was originally responsible for providing personnel, maintenance and plant material. In 1953 the Foundation relinquished direct management of the facility to Los Angeles County which established the new Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens. The Foundation continues to this day as the private support organization for the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

Membership

During the biennium membership in the Foundation remained steady at approximately 4,000 individuals, garden clubs and other horticultural organizations.

In 1988-89, a new membership group, Arboretum Associates was designed for the business community to encourage support from the corporate sector. The Foundation placed a high priority on increasing corporate memberships.

The Foundation installed a new membership software package in 1989. This software, Raiser's Edge, provides sophistication in tracking contributions, designing reports and communication with specific groups within the membership base.

Total contributions from the Foundation membership program were $192,543 in 1988-89 and $187,221 in 1989-90.

Special Projects Revenue

	1988-89	1989-90
A. Garden Show	$ 121,549	$ 97,803
Preview Party	19,805	24,960
B. Queen Anne Open House	656	880
C. Weddings	35,148	12,777

Community Service Awards

In 1990, the Foundation President, Mrs. Alice Frost Thomas, received the Volunteer of the Year Award presented by Los Angeles County in recognition of her outstanding support of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. She was also named recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award in the Fine Arts and Humanities category by the County.

Grants

A. The **Arboretum Masterplan Campaign** has benefited from generous contributions from many foundations and individuals during the past two years. California Arboretum Foundation Trustees set the pace with gifts and pledges of nearly $110,000.

Grants	Grants
1988/89	1989/90
$ 210,235	$ 99,685

As mentioned elsewhere in this report, Master Plan projects started or completed during this biennium included the Blanche Hinman Garland Orchid Greenhouse, The Henry C. Soto Water Conservation Garden and the Bog Garden and Weep Wall. Work also began on renovation and expansion of the Peacock Cafe.

While one major donor to the Master Plan projects requested anonymity, other major donors included:

J.W. and Ida M. Jameson Foundation
Santa Anita Foundation
Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust

B. The State of California provided a grant to continue the **Air Quality Control Demonstration Greenhouse**. Supervision was provided by the Arboretum staff. The grant paid for staffing and operating costs. Grant funding during the biennium was $39,996 in 1988-89, and $40,811 in 1989-90.

C. The Fletcher Jones Foundation provided funding (1988-89, $10,000; 1989-90, $20,000) for automation of the Foundation office and for an analysis of the Arboretum Education Program.

D. ARCO Foundation contributed $25,000 in 1988-89 to fund the first of a two-year pilot program to establish a Volunteer Coordinator position for the Arboretum with the objective of improving management, recruitment and training for volunteers.

E. Internship program

The internship program provided a superb educational opportunity for college students while also meeting staff needs during one of the Arboretum's busiest seasons. Funding provided by the Foundation in 1988-90 was $57,857, and in 1989-90 $49,708.

Descanso Gardens Guild

Introduction

The Descanso Gardens Guild was formally incorporated in February 1960, following several years of informal activity during which the founding members were instrumental in convincing the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to preserve the old Manchester Boddy Estate, now Descanso Gardens, as a botanic garden for the enjoyment of the citizens of Los Angeles County. The Guild continues as the private non-profit support organization for the enrichment of Descanso Gardens.

Membership

Because of a very concerted drive, membership in the Descanso Gardens Guild increased from 3,707 in 1988-89 to 4,081 in 1989-90. This same growth was reflected in the volunteer effort which increased from 44,905 hours in 1988-89 to 55,967 hours in 1989-90.

Volunteer Programs: 1988-89--1989-90

The volunteers of the Decanso Gardens Guild are primarily responsible for what is termed "program enrichment" at the Gardens. These are programs which are not funded through the County but which add to the educational and recreational enjoyment of visitors to Descanso Gardens. During the biennium such activities have included:

1. Providing hostesses for the art gallery in the Hospitality House.

2. Conducting the month-long Christmas Show at the Gardens during December each year.

3. Staffing a speakers bureau which provides twice-weekly slide presentations and lectures at the Gardens.

4. Conducts organized school tours for over 6,000 students per year on such subjects as: pond ecology, how plants grow, native plants, critters of Descanso, Indian uses of plants, trail techniques, forest environment, bird identification and early California ranchero days

5. Volunteer assistance in maintaining the Rose Garden.

6. Assisting in the gift shop and library.

7. Working on the newsletter and other public information and promotional activities.

8. Arranging musical entertainment for garden visitors on weekends.

9. Providing plant propagation service for new plants to be used on the grounds as well as for plant sales.

10. Assisted in preparation and planting of material for the annual Spring Flower Festival.

Curatorial Staff

In April 1990, George Lewis, Superintendent of Descanso Gardens, retired from County service after nineteen years as superintendent. Dr. Steven Cohan was appointed Acting Superintendent at that time and received a permanent appointment on July 1, 1990. Mr. Lewis was honored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for his significant contributions to the development of Descanso Gardens.

Community Service Awards

In 1988, the Descanso Gardens Guild received the American Horticultural Society's Horticultural Therapy Award. Also, long time Guild Board member Mrs. Georgie Van de Kamp received the American Horticultural Society's Meritorious Service Award.
In 1989, Mrs. Mary Ann Arnett, Guild President, and her husband, James, received the Les Tupper Community Service Award from the La Canada Coordinating Council.

Intern Program

During the biennium the Guild funded the Summer Intern Program in the amount of $28,050. This provided a college accredited summer work study program for biology/horticultural students to gain hands-on experience in their academic field of interest and also to provide assistance in the Gardens during a heavy workload period.

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

Introduction

The South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation was incorporated as a non-profit

foundation in June 1961, for the purpose of providing financial and program enrichment support for the South Coast Botanic Garden, an 87-acre reclaimed landfill on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, which became part of the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens in 1960.

Membership

In 1988-89 the Foundation had a total of 3,201 members. This increased to 3,280 in 1989-90. Volunteer hours of service totaled 25,268 in 1988-89, and this also increased to 26,560 hours in 1989-90.

The following fund raising events staffed by volunteers, produced revenues for garden support:

1988-89 Events	
Christmas Show	$ 1,548
Fiesta de Flores Plant Sale	43,200
Country Crafts Sale/Show	4,248
Gift Shop	54,227
Weddings	12,535
	$ 115,758
1989-90 Events	
Christmas Show	$ 1,751
Fiesta de Flores Plant Sale	49,448
Shakespeare on the Meadow	2,669
Country Crafts Sale/Show	3,936
Gift Shop	66,890
Weddings	15,100
Total	$ 139,794

Awards Received

In 1988, Mr. Rowe Prideaux received the Volunteer of the Year award from Los Angeles County for his outstanding service to the South Coast Botanic Garden. Also, the docent support group known as Amigos del Jardin received the 1988-89 Carnation Company and Volunteer Center award for exemplary service to the community. During that same period the Excellence in Reclamation award was received by the Garden.

Intern Program

During the biennium the Foundation provided $41,124 to underwrite the Student Intern Program which provides accredited training and on-the-job experience for college students interested in a horticultural career.

Robinson Gardens Foundation

Introduction

The Robinson Gardens Foundation was formally incorporated in February 1980, for the purpose of providing private financial support for the restoration and renovation of the Virginia Robinson Gardens which became County property upon the death of Virginia Robinson in 1977, and was opened to the public in 1981.

During the biennium the Robinson Gardens Foundation was involved in the following activities:

1. The Foundation funded the Summer Intern Program each year at an annual cost of $4,200. This program funds two college level horticultural students for a ten-week accredited work study program during the summer school break.

2. In 1989 the Foundation initiated a restoration program for furniture and decorative arts in the main residence. Under this program interested donors can "adopt" a piece of furniture or decorative art object and their donation will fund the cost of restoration.

Friends of Robinson Gardens

Introduction

The Friends of Robinson Gardens was formed in 1982, as a non-profit organization to raise funds for the restoration and renovation of the Virginia Robinson estate and to provide volunteer assistance for educational programs and guided tours of the Virginia Robinson Gardens.

Membership

During the biennium the Friends of Robinson Gardens maintained a roster of approximately 160 active members, and contributed nearly 5,000 hours of volunteer service.

Major Activities:

The Friends directed and were involved in the following major activities each year:

A. The docent program provided guided tours to the public eight times each week. These tours, approximately 90 minutes in length, provide educational information pertaining to the local history, architectural background, and botany of Robinson Gardens.

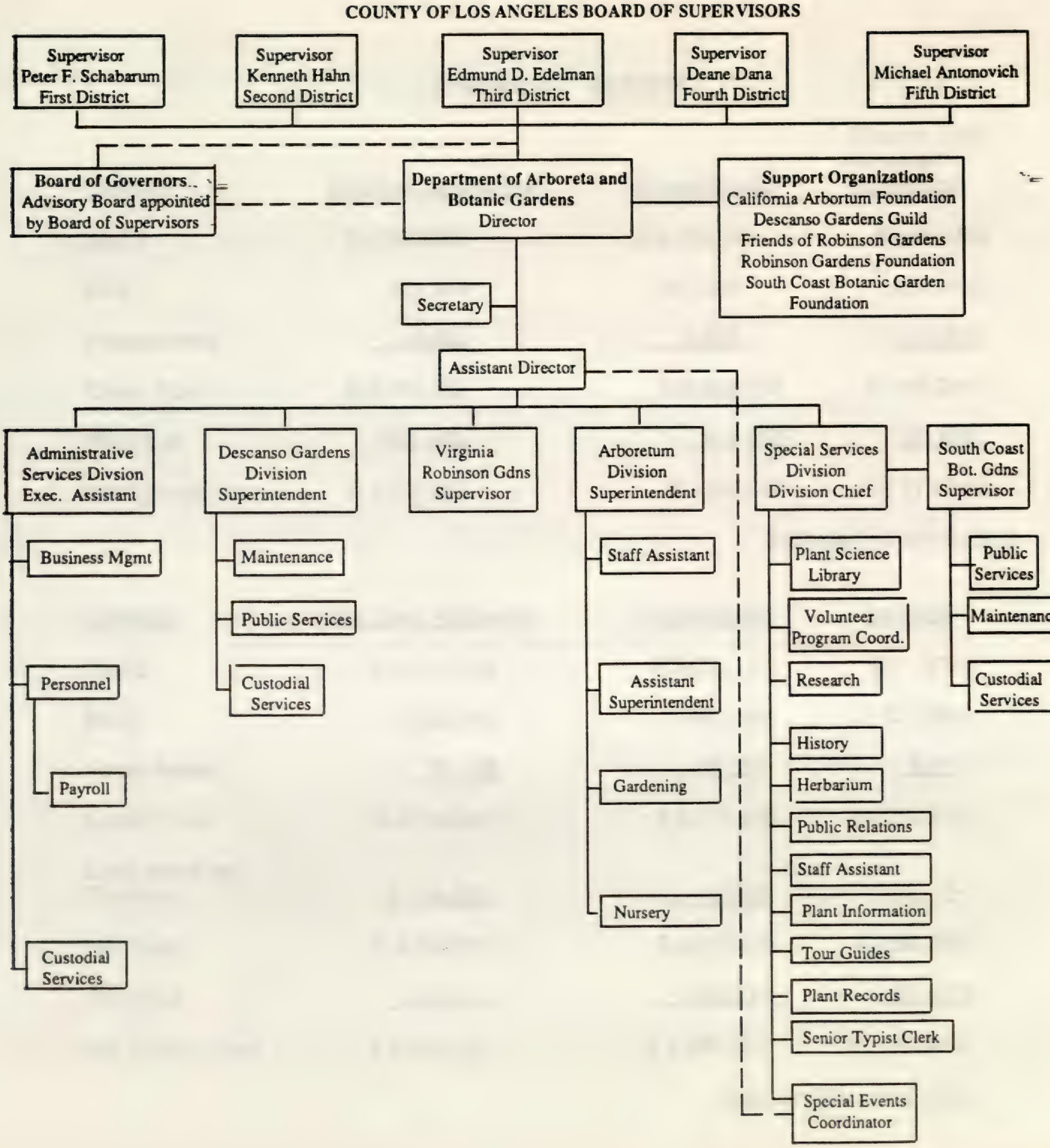
B. Educational seminars and field trips were made available to the members and their guests.

C. Each Christmas the Friends sponsored a holiday party for underprivileged and "latchkey" children which included lunch, games, entertainment and presents for all who attended.

D. On-going restoration of the structures and the gardens was directed by a volunteer board member who worked with the Department staff, the historic architect, contractors, craftsmen, and the on site supervisor to secure bids, to determine and prioritize projects and to ensure that funding was in place. Restoration projects completed during this biennium totalled over $370,000, as discussed elsewhere in this report.

Community Service Awards

Joan (Mrs. Paul) Selwyn, Founder of the Friends of Robinson Gardens was honored by Los Angeles County as the Department's Volunteer of the Year in 1989 for her outstanding support of the Virginia Robinson Gardens. She was further honored by the County as Volunteer of the Year in the Fine Arts and Humanities category.


COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Supervisor Peter F. Schabarum First District
Supervisor Kenneth Hahn Second District
Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman Third District
Supervisor Deane Dana Fourth District
Supervisor Michael Antonovich Fifth District
Board of Governors.. Advisory Board appointed by Board of Supervisors
Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens Director
Support Organizations
California Arbortum Foundation
Descanso Gardens Guild
Friends of Robinson Gardens
Robinson Gardens Foundation
South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation
Secretary
Assistant Director
Administrative Services Divsion Exec. Assistant
Descanso Gardens Division Superintendent
Virginia Robinson Gdns Supervisor
Arboretum Division Superintendent
Special Services Division Division Chief
South Coast Bot. Gdns Supervisor
Business Mgmt
Personnel
Payroll
Custodial Services
Maintenance
Public Services
Custodial Services
Staff Assistant
Assistant Superintendent
Gardening
Nursery
Plant Science Library
Volunteer Program Coord.
Research
History
Herbarium
Public Relations
Staff Assistant
Plant Information
Tour Guides
Plant Records
Senior Typist Clerk
Special Events Coordinator
Public Services
Maintenance
Custodial Services

FINANCIAL REPORT

1988-89	Adjusted Allowance	Expenditures	Change from Adjusted Allowance
S&EB	$ 2,796,638	$ 2,755,154	$(- 41,484)
S&S	952,344	745,889	(-206,455)
Fixed Assets	30,000	8,696	(- 21,304)
Gross Total	$ 3,778,982	$ 3,509,739	$(-269,243)
Revenue	801,400	911,056	109,656
Net County Cost	$ 2,977,582	$ 2,598,683	$(-378,899)

Budgeted positions 80.9

1989-90	Adjusted Allowance	Expenditures	Balance
S&EB	$ 3,031,000	$ 3,030,121	$(- 879)
S&S	1,240,848	1,009,164	(-231,684)
Fixed Assets	76,153	78,354	2,201
Gross Total	$ 4,348,001	$ 4,117,639	$(-230,362)
Less Interfund Transfer	$ 44,000	44,000	-0-
Net Total	$ 4,304,001	$ 4,073,639	$(-230,362)
Revenue	1,235,001	1,165,534	(- 69,467)
Net County Cost	$ 3,069,000	$ 2,908,105	$(-160,895)

Budgeted positions 88.5

DEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES USAGE - BIENNIUM

KEY

Arboretum	A
Descanso Gardens	D
So. Coast Bot. Garden	S

GARDEN CLUB & PLANT SOCIETY MEETINGS

A,D --	Akebono Bonsai Society
A --	American Begonia Society - San Gabriel Valley Chapter
S --	American Begonia Society - South Coast Chapter
A --	American Orchid Judges Council
A --	American Orchid Society
A --	American Rock Garden Society
A --	Arboretum District Garden Club
A --	Arcadia Garden Club
A,D --	Aril Society
A --	Associated Koi Clubs of America, Inc.
A --	Baiko-En Bonsai Kenkyukai Society
A,S,D --	Bonsai Association
A,S,D --	Bromeliad Society
A --	Cactus & Succulent Society of America - San Gabriel Valley Chapter
S --	Cactus & Succulent Society of America - South Coast Chapter
A,S,D --	California Native Plant Society
A,S --	California Rare Fruit Growers
A,S --	Camellia Society
A,S --	Cymbidium Society of America, San Gabriel Branch
A,S --	Coast Verde Garden Club
D --	Daffodil Society
A,S --	Dahlia Society
A --	Entomological Association of Southern California
A,S --	Epiphyllum Society of America
S --	Fuchsia Society
D --	Flower Arranger Guild
S --	Golden State Bonsai Society
S --	Greater Los Angeles Rose Council
A,S --	Herb Society of America, Southern California Unit
A --	Ikiru Hoseki Koi Club

A -- Judges Council of Orange County
A -- Lorquin Entomological Society
A,D -- Los Angeles Branch of the International Geranium Society
A -- Los Angeles International Fern Society
A -- Los Angeles Mycological Society
A,D -- Men's Garden Club of Los Angeles
A -- National Fuchsia Society
A -- Nursery Growers Seminar
D -- Organic Garden Growers
A,S -- Pacific Rose Society
S -- Palm Society
S -- Palos Verdes Audubon Society
D -- Pasadena Big Garden Club
A -- Pasadena Garden Club
A -- Pasadena Junior League Garden Club
D -- Sangetsu Flower Arranger
A -- Santa Anita Bonsai Society
D -- San Fernando Rose Society
A -- San Gabriel Bromeliad Study Group
A -- San Gabriel Valley Orchid Hobbyists
A -- Santa Anita Highlands Garden Club
A -- Shohin Bonsai Society
S -- South Bay Bromeliad Society
S -- South Bay Orchid Society
S -- South Coast's Garden Docents
D -- Southern California Camellia Council
A -- Southern California Camellia Society
A -- Southern California Gladiolus Society
A -- Southern California Hemerocallis and Amaryllis Society
A -- Southern California Iris Society
A -- Southland Orchid Show Committee, Inc.
A -- Southland Orchid Show Society
A,D -- Sunset Magazine and Garden Panel
A -- Temple City Camellia Society
A -- Town & Country Garden Club
A -- Valley Satsuki Azalea Society
S -- Weeder and Seeders Garden Club

FLOWER SHOWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

S -- African Voilet
A -- Amaryllis - Southern California
A -- Arbor Day
A,D -- Aril Society
A -- Azalea - Valley Satsuki
A -- Begonia - San Gabriel Valley
A,S,D -- Bonsai - Santa Anita, Baiko-En Kenkyukai
S -- Bromeliad
A,S -- Cactus & Succulent
A,D -- California Association of Nurserymen
A,S -- Camellia - Pacific, Temple City
S -- Costa Verde Flower
S -- Country Cottage Crafts
S -- Dahlia
A -- Entomological - Lorquin
A -- Environmental Education Fair
A,S -- Epiphyllium
A -- Fern - L.A. International
S -- Fiesta de Flores
A,S -- Fuchsia
A -- Girl Scout - Sierra Madre
A -- Gladiolus - Southern California
A -- Hemerocallis - Southern California
A -- Herb-A-Fair
A -- Ivy
S -- Model Train Display
A,D -- Mycological Society - Los Angeles
A,S -- Orchid - Southland
S -- Palos Verdes Art For Funds
S -- Palos Verdes Women's Club
A,S,D -- Rose - San Gabriel Valley, Pacific
S -- Shakespeare-In-The-Garden
A -- Turtle & Tortoise
S -- Volunteer's Annual Dinner Meeting

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

D -- A K A Sorority
A -- Arcadia Christian Celebrity Series
A -- Arcadia Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
A -- Bank of America
A,D -- Brotherhood Crusade
D -- Chamber of Commerce (La Canada Flintridge)
A -- Children's Home Society
D -- City Council - La Canada Flintridge
D -- Crescenta - Canada Board of Realtors
A -- Cultural Festival
D -- Deltas
A -- East Valley Art League
A,D -- Judges Council Of Southern California
D -- Kiwanis Club of La Canada Flintridge
A -- Library Association
S -- Las Gabrielinas
A -- Mid Valley Art League
A,D -- Monrovia Nursery
S -- Orange City Christian Church
S -- Palos Verdes Audubon Society
S -- Palos Verdes Chamber of Commerce
A -- Pasadena Day
A -- Pasadena Junior Philharmonic
D -- Planning Commission, City of La Canada Flintridge
A -- Pomona Valley Arts Association
S -- Prudential-Bache
S -- Rolling Hills Community Association
D -- Rotary Club of La Canada Flintridge
S -- San Pedro Apostolic Church
A -- Santa Anita Reading Council
A -- San Gabriel Academy of Seventh Day Adventists
S -- South Coast Crafts Workshop
A -- United Way

GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

A -- Food and Drug Administration
A -- Internal Revenue Service
S -- Census Bureau

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

A -- Childrens Services
S -- Department of Corrections
A -- Pest Controllers Exam
A -- Regional Water Quality Board
A -- Rehabilitation Department
A -- University of California Extension

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

A -- Agricultural Commissioner's Office
A,D,S -- Board of Governors, Arboreta and Botanic Gardens
D -- Board of Supervisors
A,D -- Chief Administrative Office
A -- Child Advocate Office
D -- Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station
A,D -- Department of Animal Care and Control
A -- Department of Auditor Controller
A -- Department of Childrens Services
A -- Department of Childrens Services - Fantasy Fiesta
A -- Department of Health Services
A -- Department of Human Resources
A,S -- Department of Mental Health
A,S -- Department of Public Social Services
A -- Department of Rehabilitation
A -- East Los Angeles Rape Hotline Inc.
A,D -- Forrester and Fire Warden
A -- Foster Home Licensing
A -- Juvenile Court Health Services

S -- Los Angeles County General Hospital
A -- Los Angeles County Management Council
S -- Los Angeles County Paramedic Training
S -- Los Angeles County Sanitation District
A,S -- Marshal's Department
A -- Municipal Court
A -- North Hollywood Health Center
A -- Office of Education
A -- Probation Department
A -- Public Health Nursing Supervisors
A -- Public Health Services
S -- Public Library
A -- Regional Planning Department
A -- Retired Employees of Los Angeles County
A -- Sheriff's Department
A,S -- Superior Court
A -- USC Medical Center
A -- USC Medical Examiners Office